

**NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT (EXCERPT)**  
**Act 451 of 1994**

**324.2521 Status and assessment report; environmental indicators as basis; submission; uniformity with other states and nationally; responsibilities of other state agencies; “environmental indicator” defined.**

Sec. 2521. (1) The department of environmental quality, in conjunction with the department of natural resources, shall biennially prepare a report that assesses the status of and trends related to the overall state of the natural environment in Michigan. The report shall be based upon environmental indicators identified by the departments of environmental quality and natural resources and upon data obtained through sound scientific methodologies and processes. The report shall be submitted to the governor, to the standing committees of the legislature with jurisdiction over issues primarily related to natural resources and the environment, and to the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on environmental quality and natural resources. The report shall be submitted not later than October 1, 2008 and every third year thereafter. The reports shall also be made available to the public electronically and, upon request, in paper format.

(2) The departments of environmental quality and natural resources shall monitor efforts undergoing in other states and nationally to establish uniformity among environmental indicators that might be included within the report.

(3) All state agencies shall cooperate with the departments of environmental quality and natural resources in carrying out their responsibilities under this section.

(4) As used in this section, "environmental indicator" means a measure of the state of the natural environment that can be derived from empirical data. The department shall use the most recent data available. If relevant data is not available, the department shall include in the report recommendations for gathering data in the future.

**History:** Add. 1999, Act 195, Imd. Eff. Dec. 16, 1999;—Am. 2005, Act 313, Imd. Eff. Dec. 27, 2005.

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